

Specification Page 20 - Amended with Underlining
And Strikethroughs

aligned at their one end or center, or collected in an irregular state.

There are no particular limitations regarding the means for bundling together the filaments 30 to obtain the filament bundling body 31, and it is possible to select a suitable means according to the material of the filaments 30. When the filaments 30 consist of a material with fusibility, heat sealing is suitable from the viewpoint of the number of processes and the processing time. ~~The~~ As the heating method, ~~may be~~ a heating/pressurizing system using a press heater, or an ultrasonic fusion system may be used. Apart from this, impregnation with adhesive or mutual binding of the filaments 30 by sewing is possible. Further, it is also possible to combine these methods with each other.

The material of the filaments 30 may be selected from the filament materials mentioned with reference to the first embodiment. Further, as the filaments 30, it is possible to use ones of the same material and the same degree of fineness (thickness), or a plurality of kinds mixed together. In particular, by combining fibers of different degrees of fineness with each other, it is

possible to achieve an improvement in terms of dust scraping-out performance, and to advantageously prevent entanglement of the fibers. When obtaining the filament bundling body 31 by bundling together filaments 30 of different kinds of material ~~by~~ with heat sealing, common materials are adopted, or materials whose melting points are close